

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) A flow regulator comprising:
a pair of side walls extending generally parallel to one another, each of said side wall having a first end;
a bottom wall connecting said side walls to one another and defining an elongate channel for receiving a compressible tube, said bottom wall having a first end; and
a roller rotatably and shiftably mounted to said side walls for rolling along the tube in said channel and compressing the tube against said bottom wall, said bottom wall being provided with a formation which varies from a first end of said channel towards an opposite, second end thereof, whereby compressive force applied by said roller to said tube via said roller is different at different longitudinal positions of said roller along said channel;
wherein the thickness of said side and bottom walls adjacent said first end of said side and bottom walls, respectively, is slightly greater than the thickness along the remaining side and bottom walls.

2. (Currently Amended) A flow regulator comprising:
a bottom wall having first and second ends;
a pair of side walls extending from said bottom wall generally parallel to one another, defining a longitudinal channel for receiving a compressible tube, said channel having first and second ends; and
a roller rotatably and shiftably mounted to said side walls for rolling along the tube in said channel and compressing the tube against said bottom wall, said bottom wall being provided with a formation which varies from a first end of said channel towards an opposite, second end thereof, whereby compressive force applied by said roller to said tube via said roller is different at different longitudinal positions of said roller along said channel;
wherein the thickness of each of said side and bottom wall at at least one discrete position along said side and bottom walls is slightly greater than the thickness along the remaining side and bottom walls, respectively.

3. (Original) The flow regulator of claim 2 wherein the thickness of each of said side and bottom wall at said first ends of said side and bottom walls and at said second ends of said side and bottom walls, are slightly greater than the thickness along the remaining side and bottom walls, respectively.

4. (Original) The flow regulator of claim 2 wherein the thickness of each of said side and bottom wall at said first ends of said side and bottom walls, at said second ends of said side and bottom walls and at a generally central position between said first and second ends of said side and bottom walls, are slightly greater than the thickness along the remaining side and bottom walls, respectively.

5. (Original) The flow regulator of claim 2, further comprising at least one protrusion extending from at least one of said side wall into said channel, defining a gap therebetween, said gap is smaller than the diameter of said compressible tube such that upon

compressing said tube to pass through said gap to rest along said channel, said tube is prevented from accidentally being dislodged from said channel.

6. (Canceled) The flow regulator of claim 2 wherein said pair of side walls extend from said bottom wall at less than ninety degree angles such that the distance between free ends of said side walls are smaller than the distance between said side walls at said bottom wall.

7. (Currently Amended) A flow regulator comprising:
a bottom wall;

a pair of side walls extending from said bottom wall at less than ninety degree angles such that the distance between free ends of said side walls are smaller than the distance between said side walls at said bottom wall, defining a longitudinal channel for receiving a compressible tube, said channel having first and second ends; and

a roller rotatably and shiftably mounted to said side walls for rolling along the tube in said channel and compressing the tube against said bottom wall, said bottom wall being provided with a formation which varies from a first end of said channel towards an opposite, second end thereof, whereby compressive force applied by said roller to said tube ~~via said roller~~ is different at different longitudinal positions of said roller along said channel.

8. (New) The flow regulator of claim 7 wherein the thickness of each of said side and bottom walls at at least one discrete position along said side and bottom walls is slightly greater than the thickness along the remaining side and bottom walls, respectively.

9. (New) The flow regulator of claim 7 wherein the thickness of each of said side and bottom walls adjacent said first end of said channel is slightly greater than the thickness along the remaining side and bottom walls.

10. (New) The flow regulator of claim 7 wherein the thickness of each of said side and bottom walls at said first end of said channel, at said second end of said channel and at a generally central position between said first and second ends of said channel, are slightly greater than the thickness along the remaining side and bottom walls, respectively.

11. (New) The flow regulator of claim 7, further comprising at least one protrusion extending from at least one of said side walls into said channel, defining a gap therebetween, said gap is smaller than the diameter of said compressible tube such that upon compressing said tube to pass through said gap to rest along said channel, said tube is prevented from accidentally being dislodged from said channel.

12. (New) The flow regulator of claim 7, further comprising a web extending between said side walls adjacent said second end of said channel.

13. (New) The flow regulator of claim 7, further comprising a strut extending from each of said side walls adjacent said second end of said channel, defining a gap therebetween.

14. (New) A flow regulator comprising:

a bottom wall;

a pair of side walls extending from said bottom wall, defining a longitudinal channel for receiving a compressible tube, said channel having first and second ends;

a roller rotatably and shiftably mounted to said side walls for rolling along the tube in said channel and compressing the tube against said bottom wall, said bottom wall being provided with a formation which varies from a first end of said channel towards an opposite, second end thereof, whereby compressive force applied by said roller to said tube is different at different longitudinal positions of said roller along said channel; and

means for maintaining said roller at different longitudinal positions along said channel.

15. (New) The flow regulator of claim 14 wherein said maintaining means comprises said pair of side walls position at less than ninety degree angles relative to said bottom wall such that the distance between free ends of said side walls are smaller than the distance between said side walls at said bottom wall